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2ND PROPOSAL OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium having a computer program stored thereon for implementing a mapping method of classifying a plurality of informational items in an information retrieval system having a database, said computer program comprising a set of instructions for implementing said method comprising the steps of:

identifying a first informational item, wherein said first informational item includes one of a frequently asked question or other data;

identifying a second informational item, wherein said second informational item includes one of a frequently asked question or other data;

dynamically updating at least one relationship field defining similarities of respective characteristic between said first informational item and said second informational item in an information retrieval session, wherein said fields are used for representing an automated data item classification process comprising:

integrating said process and said informational items with the combination of one or more algorithms working in conjunction to produce an output simulating a non-conventional Bayesian-type Belief Network;

detecting an access of said first informational item;

detecting an access of said second informational item;

establishing that said a relationship link exists between said first informational item and said second informational item;

determining an integer-value weight based on the historical frequency of said relationship link;

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applying the combination of at least one of said algorithms to said first and second informational items relative to said integer-value weight of said relationship link to produce an output;

assigning said integer-value weight to said output; and

storing said output being at least partially indicative of the classification of said informational items.

2. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 1 wherein said steps of identifying and detecting the second informational item includes identifying and detecting of a plurality of informational items.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of:

applying an algorithm for data aging wherein the usage of the relationship link is monitored and used as feed back for the integer-value weight associated with the relationship link.

5. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 4, further comprising the step of:

applying a pruning algorithm wherein external information regarding the usefulness of at least one relationship link is utilized to modify the integer-value weight or existence of a recorded relationship link.

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6. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 5, wherein said pruning algorithm performs the removal of irrelevant relationship links subsequent to the data aging feedback process.

7. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 5, wherein said pruning algorithm makes use of a user determined feedback of the usefulness of a relationship link.

8. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 2, wherein a plurality of algorithms is used and wherein said relationship link integer-value weight is adjusted in direct proportion to the number of said algorithms used to determine the existence of said relationship link.

9. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 2, wherein said relationship link is positioned in a list in direct proportion to the degree of consensus among said algorithms.

10. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 2, wherein each algorithm used runs independently of all other algorithms.

11. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of merging the outputs of said algorithms.

12. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of recording said relationship link in said non-Bayesian-type Belief Network.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium having a computer program stored thereon for providing classification of informational items in an information retrieval system having a database, said computer program having a network structure which allows cycles comprising:

means for detecting the access of informational items, wherein said informational items include one of a frequently asked question or other data;

means for dynamically updating at least one relationship field defining similarities of respective characteristic between said a first informational item and said a second informational item in an information retrieval session, wherein said fields are is used for representing an automated data item classification process;

means for applying integrating said data item classification process comprising and said informational items with the combination of one or more algorithms working in conjunction to produce an output simulating a non-conventional Bayesian-type Belief Network;

means for establishing the existence of relationship links between said informational items to enhance the effectiveness of said information retrieval system;

means for weighting said relationship links, said weight being directly proportional to the outcome of the combination of one or more said algorithms; and

means for storing said relationship links and relationship link weights.

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15. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 14 including:
- means for aging said relationship links; and
- means for pruning said relationship links.
16. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 15 including means for merging the resulting output of said algorithms into a knowledge network.
17. (Original) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a computer program for implementing a method of classifying a plurality of information items in an information retrieval system, said computer program comprising a set of instructions for implementing the steps recited in claim 2.
18. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium according to claim 17, wherein said computer program further comprises one or more instructions for clustering the resulting output of said algorithms into a knowledge network.
19. (Original) The computer readable storage medium according to claim 17, wherein said computer program further comprises one or more instructions for improving the usefulness of said relationship links through weighting of said relationship links.
20. (Original) The computer readable storage medium according to claim 17, wherein said computer program further comprises one or more instructions for improving the usefulness of said relationship links through pruning of said relationship links.

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21. (Original) The computer readable storage medium according to claim 17, wherein said computer program further comprises one or more instructions for improving the usefulness of said relationship links through aging of said relationship links.

22. (Original) The computer readable storage medium according to claim 17, wherein said computer program further comprises one or more instructions for improving the usefulness of said relationship links through weighting, pruning and aging of said relationship links.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) The computer readable storage medium as recited in claim 4, wherein said algorithm for data aging runs as a function of traffic load to age the relationship links according to relevance of the relationship links.

28. (Currently amended) A computer readable storage medium having a computer program stored thereon for implementing a mapping method of classifying a plurality of informational items in an information retrieval system having a database, said computer program comprising a set of instructions for implementing said method comprising the steps of:

detecting an access of a first informational item, wherein said first informational item includes one of a frequently asked question or other data;

detecting an access of a second informational item, wherein said second informational item includes one of a frequently asked question or other data;

establishing that a relationship link exists between said first informational item and said second informational item;

dynamically updating at least one relationship field defining similarities of respective characteristic between said first informational item and said second informational item in an information retrieval session, wherein said fields are is used for representing an automated data item classification process comprising;

integrating said process and said informational items with the combination of one or more algorithms working in conjunction to produce an output simulating a non-conventional Bayesian-type Belief Network;

applying the combination of one or more said algorithms directly proportional to said integer-value weight of said relationship link; and

combining and merging the output of said algorithms to pre-populate the informational retrieval system; and

storing said output being at least partially indicative of the classification of said informational items.